



**HEADQUARTERS
CIVIL AIR PATROL VIRGINIA WING
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AUXILIARY**
7401 Airfield Drive
Richmond, Virginia 23237-2250



COMMANDERS PLEASE POST

Number 05-04

APRIL 2005

TO: ALL VIRGINIA WING SENIOR MEMBERS AND CADETS

FROM: HQ, VIRGINIA WING, Director of Administration, Jackie Graham

UNIT NEWSLETTER: It is very important that you share this Newsletter with all Members of your Unit. Please review this material at your unit meeting and post a copy on your Bulletin Board so that it will be available to ALL members. (Members can't participate if you do not tell them about coming events). This Bulletin is posted on the Virginia Wing Website as a PDF document. Check the Wing calendar on the website for pertinent events and reports.

1. COMMANDER COMMENTS – Members of VAWG, the winter National Board Meeting was held in Alexandria, VA last month. There were some items on the agenda, which will be of interest to most, if not all of you. Some of these items affect your uniforms and others, the training you will be taking as we move into new roles in the post 9/11 era. Amongst the changes you will see:

1. The national board authorized the wear of CAP grade insignia on both collar tabs of the BDU uniform for both seniors and cadets. This is effective immediately, with a phase out date for the old method of 1 grade insignia and 1 CAP cut out for 12-31-05. We have been told that as soon as this revision can be written the revised uniform manual should be published, probably with a 1 April date.
2. The board also approved for wear a modification to the EMT badges. This will affect only the badge worn on the BDU and will now incorporate a star and a wreath to indicate higher training levels. The phase in date has not been established on this, but should be included in the new uniform manual. This badge will replace the EMT badge worn on the pocket of the BDU uniform.
3. Many of you have heard about the new Hyper Spectral Imaging system that will be used in conjunction with the new Gippsland GA-8 aircraft. NHQ is currently working on the training requirements for the system operators. The system was designed so that those with a high school level of computer knowledge should be able to operate the system. Ideally, the people who will operate the HIS system are, for lack of a better word, computer geeks. Training will be open to both seniors and cadets. Only seniors will be able to use the airborne system, but cadets will learn how to use the ground-based systems for analysis purposes. We do not anticipate taking many pilots into the training program for this system, as history to date shows that pilots cannot keep their eyes on the computer screen in the aircraft, but want to look around—missing the targets when they pop up on the screen. The training class on using the HIS system is a three-day class.
4. The board has approved a design for a photo ID card that will be optional. All cadet and senior members will be able to upload a digital photograph to the NHQ web site. The picture will be validated at the group or wing level to verify that the written name and picture match (more on this later as procedures are formulated by NHQ). The ID card will be validated by use of a hologram over part of the picture. This card will be optional

as the cost during the first one or two years will be \$4.00 to each member that wants one, due to the start up costs of the program. Starting in June or July, renewing members will be able to order their card and pay the additional fee. Production of the cards will begin in October, 2005. Eventually, we will be able to add smart chips and/or proximity antennae into the cards to allow them to be used in conjunction with other agencies. The national commander will send a letter to the USAF for coordination with all other services that this ID card is the “preferred” ID card to be used to gain access to military installations. The local base commander may still accept the current ID card, but will be free to limit access to only those with the new card.

5. Due to changes in the NHQ non-appropriated budget, we expect to see about \$45,000 added to the national glider O-ride budget. This should add about \$900 to \$1000 to our glider O-ride budget for FY '05.
6. CAPR 160-2 has been repealed and will be re-issued as a CAP pamphlet, probably with the same number.
7. Effective 1 October, you will have the option of renewing your membership for 1, 2, or 3 years. Sorry, no price break allowed for the advance payments. Refunds of dues will only be made for death of the member or because the membership was terminated for cause.
8. There will be a new recruiting contest starting 1 April and running through 30 June. Rules will be forthcoming in CAP News, but in summary, they are:
 - a. Only one member may be credited with recruiting a new member. Recruiters CAPID # must be on the new members application
 - b. New members recruited through the middle school initiatives, state supported programs or by employees of CAP are not eligible to participate in this contest.
 - c. Applications paid for by an outside/sponsoring agency do not count towards recruiting credit
 - d. NHQ will maintain the official record of all new members and their recruiters.
 - e. Transfers into a unit due to deactivation of another unit will not count toward overall growth rate for a unit.

Awards will be made to the senior and cadet who recruit the most new members. Other awards will be made to the cadet, composite and senior squadron in each region that has the highest overall growth rate during the contest period.

The awards will be:

For Senior Members

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| 1 st Place | Trip for two to the summer national board meeting (registration, hotel, banquet and airfare) and a 2-year free membership |
| 2 nd Place | TOPO Magellan Sport Trak Color GPS and 1-year free membership |
| 3 rd Place | Digital Camera and 1-year free membership |
| 4 th Place | Uniform of choice (except mess dress) or \$200 cash and 1-year free membership |
| 5 th Place | Handheld Palm Pilot and 1-year free membership |
| 6 th Place | \$75 CAPMart gift certificate and 1-year free membership |
| 7 th Place | \$50 CAPMart gift certificate and 1-year free membership |
| 8 th Place | \$25 CAPMart gift certificate and 1-year free membership |
| 9 th Place | \$20 CAPMart gift certificate and 1-year free membership |
| 10 th Place | 1-year free membership |

For Cadet Members:

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| 1 st Place | Trip to Cadet Special Activity of choice (must meet selection criteria) which includes registration and transportation, and 2-years free membership |
| 2 nd Place | Magellan Sport Trak Color GPS and 1-year free membership |
| 3 rd Place | Digital Camera and 1-year free membership |

- 4th Place Uniform of choice or \$200 cash and 1-year free membership
- 5th Place Game Boy Advance DS with game and carrying case and 1-year free membership
- 6th Place Microsoft Flight Simulator 2004 and 1-year free membership
- 7th Place Electra J3 Cub Model R/C airplane and 1-year free membership
- 8th Place \$25 CAPMart gift certificate and 1-year free membership
- 9th Place \$20 CAPMart gift certificate and 1-year free membership
- 10th Place 1-year free membership

Squadrons

For each Cadet, Composite and Senior Squadron in each region, with highest overall growth rate, will receive \$250.

If you have any questions about the topics covered, please feel free to drop me a note at cc.va@vawg.cap.gov

3. EMERGENCY SERVICES – There will be a wing-wide SARCAP help at Newport News International Airport on Saturday 9 April 05 with the safety briefing promptly at 0800. All wing aircraft, and as many vehicles as possible, should be in attendance. This will be our "practice" mission before the SAR EVAL coming up in May. Although there will be opportunities for training, our real goal is to practice the skills we have already acquired. Please make plans now to be in attendance.

4. AEROSPACE EDUCATION – Hopefully your unit has submitted its 1st Quarter AE report by now. They are due by 10 April 2005. If you do not have the word template for this form I will send you one or you can download it from the VAWG Paperless Wing in the Wing Supplements Section.

The Fly a Teacher Program is still on for this year. Major Frank Kalupa, Group 3 AEO will be helping me in administering this program but we need other people with the Wing to go out and roundup the Aerospace Education Member (AEM)'s and CAP pilots. Any one wanting a list of AEM's in Virginia can let me know and I will forward you a list. Of course, there is nothing to stop you from going out and recruiting new AEM's. I can also send you the information packet for this purpose. The weather will be getting nicer and teachers are back from spring break so lets go for it.

As I mentioned last month, we will have an AE Session at the Middle East Region Conference, 22-24 April, at the Sheraton Park South, 9901 Midlothian Turnpike in Richmond that addresses both the AEM Program and the Satellite Tool Kit (STK) Program. Several members have asked for help in these areas. You can register and get hotel information at www.mer.cap.gov.

Danville Squadron will be participating in the Small Aircraft Transportation System (SATS) Demonstration at the Danville Airport 5-7 June 2005. Cadets will be helping with the exhibits and are now being trained by National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) employees for the event. Various dignitaries, including the Governor of Virginia, representatives of the US Department of Transportation, and NASA will be attending. What a great opportunity for Virginia Wing and CAP to advertise its role in Aerospace Education.

A member of the Wing AE Staff would like to pay a visit to your unit this year. This may be in conjunction with a Unit Inspection, or as a Staff Assistance Visit. Please let Major Bert Jones or myself know when we can schedule something. We will need at least a month's notice. Lt Col David C. Scull, VAWG DAE, 7897 Wellington Drive, Warrenton, VA 21086, Ph: 540 349-9310, E-mail: kd4sv@arrl.net. Major Albert L. Jones, VAWG Asst. Director for Internal AE, 370 Westview Lane, Heathsville, VA 22743 Ph: 804 580-5120, E-Mail: uptheriver@rivnet.net.

5. Safety – Please plan to attend the safety session of the MER conference, Saturday, 23 April. There will be a good overview of all safety program activity including that of the National HQ and Middle East Region, and we will have an opportunity to present some of the features of the ongoing system safety activity in the Virginia Wing.

Also, please note that the first quarter safety reports are due, using the VAWG Form 16.

6. OPERATIONS – The VAWG single seat glider (I-26) will be relocated to the Front Royal airport by April 7 and available for flights by CAP members. The Maule, presently located at Winchester, will be the tow aircraft.

Capt. Steve Lander, VAWG Glider Director, will be coordinating Front Royal Senior Glider activities, as well as establishing operational procedures. VAWG will be charged the tie down fee, however, we are in the process of determining a cost sharing plan whereby the total cost of tiedown, glider flights, towing, and aircraft ferry costs are equally shared by the participants at no expense to VAWG. This is an excellent way for both glider and tow pilots to maintain their proficiency. A current list of qualified tow pilots is posted on the VAWG Paperless Web Page.

The Blanik will be relocated from Chesapeake to Culpeper on April 23 and established as another VAWG glider base of operations. The Maule will also be relocated and hangared at Culpeper as soon as glider operations commence. N 99559, the backup tow aircraft (C-172) will be reassigned to Group 3 to insure towing capabilities are always maintained.

Capt. Lander is working on the Unit schedule assignments for the Cadet O rides, which will be posted on the Group 3 Glider Web Page.

We anticipate another VAWG glider base of operations at Danville in the fall. When this is complete VAWG will have five glider bases of operation, Winchester, Front Royal, Culpeper, Danville and Chesapeake.

Maryland CAP has again requested the use of the VAWG Blanik for their Cadet Encampment between June 19 and June 24 to be held at Frederick, Md.

Please contact Capt. Steve Lander for further glider information: slander@cox.net.

VAWG will be switching aircraft schedule companies on about May 1. Flight Schedule Pro.com will be replacing AircraftClubs for several reasons. Wing will save over \$100 per year and also receive several additional benefits to the members, such as listing instructor availability, listing squaks, many links to aviation related sites, detailed listings, etc.

FlightSchedulePro has also signed a multiyear corporate partnership with the CAP. Doug Roberson, VAWG Assistant Stan/Eval Officer, has agreed to make all the necessary changes when switching companies. This will insure the transition will be accurate and without any burden on the individual pilot.

Members can now log onto www.flightschedulepro.com and review the many benefits that will soon be available to VAWG. You can also take a tour of the scheduling system by clicking onto "demo system" and insert the two demo passwords.

As we get closer to the implementation date, Doug will be posting information and instructions thereby making the transition as easy as possible. VAWG will be supporting one of our Corporate partners and provide more services to our members at a lower cost.

Newsbreak

PRINCE WILLIAM COMPOSITE (VA-102) SQN HOSTS JOINT CAP/POLICE GSAR EXERCISE

By Capt. James Covell

On 19 March, the Prince William Composite Squadron coordinated a joint ground search and rescue exercise with CAP elements from VAWG Group-3 and the National Capital Wing and the Fairfax County Police Search Team. The exercise was conducted on the challenging terrain of a private school along the Potomac River near Great Falls Park.

The exercise stemmed from two motivations. First, was the initially independent effort by the Prince William Composite Squadron to improve operational liaison with other search and rescue entities in the region. Second, a decision to support the Fairfax County Citizens Corps Council's effort to improve the coordination between county first responders and volunteer emergency service entities in northern Virginia. This exercise offered the unique opportunity to fulfill both objectives.

Since Fairfax County is effectively divided between the Virginia Wing and National Capital Wing, this exercise also offered a unique opportunity for both wings to participate. (The "seamless" operation of multiple Wing CAP entities in the county had been a concern voiced to the Citizens Corps Council by county officials.) As a result, NATCAPWG was invited to participate and provided one ground team.

The exercise involved a missing/downed aircraft scenario that included a search for a missing and injured survivor who had wandered off. The crash site included an active training ELT so CAP could demonstrate its UDF capabilities to the police (they have no such capability). In addition to the NATCAP personnel mentioned above, the CAP contingent consisted of GSAR personnel from the Prince William and Leesburg Squadrons. Lt. Col. McInturff (Group-3 CC) served as the exercise IC and Capt. Mike Conner served as the ground branch director. The police team was led by 2Lt. Sue Lamar, Reston District Station and some 20 other officers and supervisors.



Capt. Mike Conner briefs CAP and Fairfax County Police personnel at the beginning of the exercise.

The exercise went well during a bright and beautiful spring day. As might be expected in any such joint-agency effort, there were conflicts in command styles, search tactics, and communications issues. Nevertheless, everyone concerned learned a great deal. All three parties have agreed to continue to train together as opportunities arise in the future. A side effect has been new agreement between the NATCAPWG and VAWG to participate in each other's northern Virginia SARCAPs. The FCPD search team may also be invited to GSAR exercises in both wings that are open to other GSAR groups.

1Lt. Dale Rolfe (PWCS) and Police Team began a search for the missing "pilot" of the downed aircraft.



Background on the Fairfax County Police Search Team – The Fairfax County Police operates one of the few ground search teams found among urban law enforcement agencies. The 35-member team is trained and specialized to conduct searches in large, urban, and stream valley parks found throughout the county. They draw their personnel from various units and district stations in the police department, including their animal control unit. The search is a paid part-time team. They train monthly, but follow their own training program. They have infrared sensor equipped ATV's, night-vision equipment, K9 teams, police helicopters, and bicycle and trail bike teams at their disposal.

Roanoke Composite Squadron – The following cadets were promoted to their present grades this month: C/Captain Katrina Litchford; C/CMSgts Chris Bennett, Justin Boitnott and Joshua Streithof; C/SMSgt David Givens; C/TSgts Peter Broughton, Dominique Litchford and Nikolas Wilder; C/A1Cs Jessica Dunn and Siler Johnston; and C/A2C Austin Deutsch.

On 28 March, Colonel Charlie Glass, MER CC, presented several cadet awards to very deserving recipients. They were: C/Captain Katrina Litchford, the Amelia Earhart Award; C/2nd Lieut. Kasey Bailey, C/2nd Lieut. Wolfgang Chenault and C/2nd Lieut. Stephen Williams, the Billy Mitchell Award.

This month, C/2nd Lieut. Stephen Williams assumed the position of Cadet Commander, replacing C/1st Lieut. Daniel Bessette.

C/SMSgt John Woodard was selected as Roanoke Squadron's Cadet of the Quarter for outstanding performance of his duties as Flight Sergeant.

Virginia Wing – The 2005 Color Guard Competition was held at Wing Headquarters facilities located at the Chesterfield Airport on Saturday 19 March. Three teams competing had been selected at Group level competitions to represent their respective areas. The teams competing were:

Group 1 – Danville Composite Squadron – MER-VA-023
Group 2 – West Richmond Cadet Squadron – MER-VA-089
Group 3 – Prince William Composite Squadron – MER-VA-102

After a very close competition, the judges selected Prince William Composite Squadron as winner of the event. Prince William Squadron will go on to represent Virginia Wing at the Middle-East Regional competition.

We would like to thank all of the participating Squadrons, parents, judges, and support staff that made this event possible. Special thanks goes to Mr. Donald Burke, State Liaison Officer, for coordinating the judges and to Lt. Col. Randall Hardy, Director of Cadet Programs for his work and guidance with the state wide Cadet Programs.

Group I – Congratulations to C/Lt Col Megan Dillon from the Martinsville Composite Squadron. Megan has been accepted to the United States Coast Guard Academy, New London, Ct. with a reporting date of June 28, 2005. Megan is the daughter of the Reverend Joseph and Anita Dillon of Rocky Mount. Megan is an honors student at Franklin County High School. Megan will also be testing for her Spaatz soon. Our congratulations also go out to 1LT Margie Earles, Squadron CC in Martinsville for a job well done bringing this young lady to where she is today in CAP.